(c) the details thereof in either cases; and

(d) the steps initiated, if any, by Government on the basis thereof?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The National Commission for Minorities (NCM) has forwarded the report of the visit of its team headed by Chairman, NCM to Lucknow, on 11-12 June, 2008 to the Government of Uttar Pradesh for appropriate action.

Scholarships to minority students

†1480. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that various schemes to give scholarships to the students belonging to minority community are operational in the country;

(b) if so, which are those schemes; and

(c) the number and castes of these students who were given scholarships during the years 2006-07, 2007-08 and the first six months of the year 2008-09 and the average amount given to each student under each of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY): (a) to (c) The details of the three scholarship schemes being implemented for students belonging to the minority communities, the number of scholarships awarded and the average amount given are as under:

S.No.	Scheme	No. of scholarships		Average amount per student (in Rs.)
		2007-08	2008-09 (upto Sept. 08)	
1	Merit-cum-means scholarship (Implemented from 2007-08)	17258	104	23657
2	Post-matric scholarship (Implemented from 2007-08)	57112	-	3833
3	Pre-matric scholarship (Implemented from 2008-09)	-	18907	1956

Problems faced by NMDFC

1481. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC) is facing problem in loan recoveries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what is the total outstanding of NMDFC, as on date;

(d) the details of reasons for poor loan recoveries by NMDFC;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(e) the steps taken by Government to bail out the Corporation in critical condition so that minority community continues to secure funds;

(f) whether Government proposes to, help minority community to secure loans at subsidized rates for setting up projects; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY): (a), (b) and (d) National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC) provides financial assistance to beneficiaries belonging to the minority communities through State channelising Agencies (SCAs) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Some SCAs have a weak infrastructure resulting in low recovery from beneficiaries.

(c) An amount of about Rs. 742.35 crores is outstanding, not all of which is due-yet.

(e) The overall recovery position of NMDFC under the term loan scheme is 82%. However, to further improve the situation, a scheme of grants-in-aid for strengthening the SCAs was started in 2007-08, after repeated advisories to State Governments for improvement of the infrastructure of SCAs elicited little response. It is expected that such assistance would, among other things, improve the delivery system of SCAs leading to better recovery of loans.

(f) and (g) NMDFC provides financial assistance, on concessional terms, to people belonging to the minority communities living below double the poverty line. Term loans are extended at 6% and micro-finance at 5%, to eligible beneficiaries. The Central Government has already contributed Rs. 520.36 crores towards the equity of NMDFC and the outlay for contribution to the equity of NMDFC in the XIth Plan is Rs. 500 crores.

Upliftment of minority community

1482. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Governments have evolved special measures and allocated funds towards upliftment of minority community on the basis of the recommendations of the Sachar Committee;

(b) if so, the details of steps taken by the States;

(c) whether the Central Government has taken/proposes to take measures to implement the Committee's recommendations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY): (a) to (d) The Sachar Committee was constituted by the Central Government and a statement on the follow-up action on the recommendations of that Committee has been laid in the House on 31.08.2007. The States have been advised by the Ministries/Departments concerned to take action on issues within the domain of States.

Development of muslim community

1483. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state: